

The Xplanation and the Y

A Brief Explanation of Male Behavior
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NOTHING TO FEAR BUT....

There have been countless books written about male/female relationships. Typically these books are long-winded and the only resolution offered is trifle like this: men and women are different and in order to live together harmoniously we have to accept our differences and find some sort of middle ground where we can meet. Now this is utter nonsense. Compromising is not the key to relationship bliss. All compromising does is turn you and your mate into hybrids of each other's less extreme personality traits. Your extremes are what make you *you* and to mitigate them to aspire to some dunderheaded ideal of a perfect relationship is foolish. The key to a *genuine* understanding between men and women lies in overcoming the great fear. What is the great fear? It's the fear of death—specifically premature death. For the most part we accept the inevitability of dying as a result of natural causes at a ripe old age, but we are terrified of the possibility of it happening any sooner than that. We want to die when we are *ready* to die. Of course life does not work this way and we are all well aware of this, but we still waste too

many idle thoughts anxiously wondering how and when we will kick the proverbial bucket. Thing is, we cannot help it, we're wired this way, it's biological.

As you might expect, women and men cope with this fear in different ways. Women (the presumed weaker sex) often seek the protection of men (the presumed stronger sex). This is why women often choose mates who either possesses a physically imposing physique or whose nature is aloof and reactionary. To be physically imposing has obvious advantages. However, the aloof-reactionary archetype instills fear in a slightly more sinister way. Their unpredictable and disdainful nature make them some of the most dangerous people on the planet. Not surprisingly, these men usually suffer from some sort of sexual, physical or intellectual inadequacy and their behavior acts as a sort of diversion. Your dictators, despots, and crime bosses typically possess the characteristics of the aloof-reactionary. Of course, it is possible for man to possess qualities of both archetypes. Mike Tyson immediately comes to mind.

What is intriguing about the male coping mechanism is that it is almost entirely reliant on exerting strength or threatening to exert strength and it's all just gamesmanship. Men love their games—whether it is football or international conflict—men just love whooping each other's asses. The reason for this is simple. It's always simple. Male competitions are no more than auditions—they are auditioning for the role of protector. Here's the rub: since men are the most likely threats to mortality a man must show other men that he is the strongest amongst them. By doing this he limits the number of prospective challengers and will certainly have several options when it comes to choosing a mate. Now if a man is not particularly strong he does have alternatives—the most popular being joining forces with other men to fend off potential threats. Examples of this are tribes, gangs, armies, nations, et cetera.

GOTTA BE THE MAN!

Let's role-play for a moment. Imagine a burglar barges into your home while you and your wife are watching TV. She cowers and you go to confront the burglar. With great ease the burglar knocks you unconscious and proceeds to ransack your home. Eventually you awake to find your wife still on the couch petrified and in tears. You were supposed to be The Man. You were supposed to protect her. However, this other, stronger man came into your home and bested you in front of your woman. What do you do now? Well, you have to do something to strengthen yourself. There are two common to achieve this goal—working out, purchasing weapons or both. Men work out not to sculpt a lean healthy body. No, when men go to the gym they compare themselves to every last guy in the place. They want to be bigger and stronger than the biggest strongest guy in there because they think that if they get that big and that strong they would inspire fear in other men, and thusly women would want them because they would feel safe with them. And all of this is true. Men's health magazines make a killing based

on this simple truth. Every ad in them purports to make men bigger and stronger in some form or fashion. And it all goes back to the great fear. It is very simple. Women fear premature death, men are the likely cause of premature death, so a woman must partner with a strong man to protect her from the other men who wish to harm her and her children. What is significant here is the fact that women, by acknowledging and embracing their role as the weaker of the sexes, perpetuate male chauvinism.

S-E-X

Now the big one—sex! Sex is strength. It is no mystery why missiles, rockets, guns, bullets, swords, arrows, skyscrapers are all phallic shaped. These are overt representations of the male sex organ and the bigger the penis surrogate the mightier the men who possess it appear to be. Men, ever aware of their penile deficiencies craft unnecessarily tall structures and killing devices in phallic forms because they ignorantly believe that their sexual strength is predicated upon how much they have hanging in their trousers. Therefore if the penis symbolizes strength and if a man happens not to possess a penis he believes is adequate then he must compensate in other ways, perhaps by constructing an abomination like the intercontinental ballistic missile that can travel over 3,500 miles to deliver a nuclear warhead capable of wiping out an entire city. I think it's safe to assume that not even the biggest penis can do that! These outlandish displays of sexual strength are meant to simultaneously ease women's anxieties while also keeping them in a perpetual state of fear. Kind of a Cath-22, isn't it?

The seemingly incongruous marriage of sex and violence can be found in everything from the terminology men use to describe the act of sex itself which is often brutal and degrading, to the pornographic movies they enjoy whereby the male actor seems to be punishing the female actor. The most troubling aspect of such pornography is the fact that men bring this fictionalized sexual dynamic into their bedrooms and then foolishly wonder why their sexual partners complain of being unsatisfied. Men are more concerned with asserting their dominance than pleasing their woman. But then again, women are not supposed to enjoy sex right? How else do you explain female genital mutilation or countless other affronts to female sexual liberation? And it all goes back to the great fear folks.

THE END OF FEAR

All right, so now we know that fear begets violence and violence leads to premature death. What we need to look at more closely is the nature of violence itself. Violence is a reflexive action. Not much thought precedes most acts of violence. You hit me, I hit you right back. No hesitation. But what happens if you hit me and I stop and ask you why you hit me? What if that was our response to violence. What if we kept asking why? Next time someone assaults you in any way ask them why they did what they did. Stand there and confront them with your intellect, not your fists because in order to overcome all of our petty insecurities, and relationship issues we must first overcome the fear of death. We all need to work together to overcome this fear because if we do not then we will remain in a perpetual cycle of violence, destructive behavior, chauvinism and misogyny. Now here's the real kicker, by overcoming this fear we betray our very nature. The fear is part of us, it more or less keeps us in line, but what if we tried to defeat it?

There have been a lot of spree killings in the media recently. In an enlightened society spree killings would be nonexistent because the people would not fear death. Let me explain. A man walks into a business with a semi-automatic rifle and what seems like endless strands of ammunition draped over his shoulders. Now what typically happens when this occurs? People flee. The gunman gives chase picking off as many as he can. Once he exhausts his magazine he reloads and takes out several more people. Now imagine what would have happened if nobody fled, but instead ran towards the gunman. He could probably pick off as many as his magazine held, but not as many as he did in the previous scenario. Okay, let's imagine we all did this every time we were faced with things that wished us harm or death. A society that defeats the fear of death defeats the things that wish to bring it about prematurely. Now here's the \$15,000 question—how do we defeat the fear? He same way we defeated the fear of the Boogie Man. At some point we realized that he was not real. That he was just the figment of someone's wild imagination. We must look at death the same way. It does not exist. Death

is a finite concept and there is nothing about the universe that is finite. We think that we are born and then we die. Fact is this cycle is only one part of our evolutionary infinity. That is why there will never be an answer to the famous chicken or egg question because the chicken evolved from another creature and that creature evolved from another and another and another going all the way back to the Primordial Soup, and in that soup contained the essence of the chicken and for that matter every living thing on this planet and of course even the soup had to come from something and that came from something and—you get the point. Still not resonating? Well, try this one on—when you purportedly die you are either placed in a wooden box and buried underground or cremated and your ashes scattered somewhere or maybe you would rather reside in an urn atop a loved one's mantle. No matter what method you choose you still remain somewhere and your remains influence everything around them. In order to place a casket underground earth has to be moved to accommodate it (organisms are relocated). Over time your body will decompose providing food for other organisms which will eventually become waste

which fertilizes the soil. See, even in death you are still very much fertile! Okay, what about my ashes wiseguy? How do they influence the world around them? Well, if you are scattered over the Pacific Ocean for example and let's say a fish happens to gobble up a piece of you and then a bird gobbles up the fish and then flies to shore where it relieves itself of you and the fish—as mentioned earlier the waste becomes fertilizer and—once again, you get the point. Even if your ashes rest in an urn, the urn still occupies space. Also, the urn will not remain in the same space for eternity. It may get passed on and occupy another space and another space and another and—here we go again. Now these are just a few examples of this phenomenon—it is impossible to list them all because they are infinite. What you need to remember is that everything that ever was or will be is right here with us. Death does not exist. Therefore the fear need not exist as well.

THE FEAR OF DEATH IS THE FEAR OF LIFE.
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